Application/Control Number: 09/035624

Art Unit:2712

made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103© and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 2-10, 13-38, and 41-56, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abecassis in view of Russo et al.

Abecassis discloses a direct access storage device that shows substantially the same limitations recited in claims 2, 13-14, 23-25, 29, 41-42, and 52-53, including the feature of buffering at least a portion of a multimedia program segmented into a custom ordered series of source program segments, each of the source program segments being representative of a unique portion of the multimedia program (See Abecassis' column 5, line 67, to column 6, line 12), and the feature of controlling the transfer of the source program segments as sequentially ordered local program segments from the data storing regions as specified in the present claims 2, 13-14, 23-25, 29, 41-42, and 52-53. (See Abecassis'column 5, line 67, to column 6, line 3).

Abecassis fails to specifically disclose the feature of controlling the transfer of the source program segments from an upper and lower transducers to the plurality of data storing regions disposed on any of a lower disk surface and an upper disk surface and from the data storing regions to the upper and lower transducers as specified in claims 2, 13-14, 23-25, 29, 41-42, and 52-53.

Russo et al discloses a video recording and reproducing apparatus including the feature of controlling the transfer of the source program segments from an upper and lower transducers to the plurality of data storing regions disposed on any of a lower disk surface and an upper disk